Strengthening and widening of roads in Andhra Pradesh

196. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the particulars of the proposals of Andhra Pradesh Government for strengthening and widening of roads in the State which are pending with the Ministry for clearance:

(b) when each of the above proposal was received from the Andhra Pradesh Government and what action has so far been taken in respect of each such proposal: and

(c) what are the reasons for delay in according centre's approval to the above proposals and by when the necessary sanction of the proposals are likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) Presumably the Hon'ble Member wants to seek information regarding the position of proposals for widening and strengthening of various roads in Andhra Pradesh.

As far as National Highways are concerned, there is only one proposal of this nature pending in the Ministry, viz. "Strengthening weak 2-lanes in Km. 250-257 of Nagpur-Hyderabad section on NH-7". This proposal, with an estimated cost of Rs. 130.62 lakhs, was received from the State PWD in July, 1990. The proposal is being processed for sanction, subject to the technical and financial parameters being found in order.

Apart from above, the State Government has projected several proposals of widening/strengthening pertaining to the State Road system under the augmented Central Road Fund Programme. These proposals cannot be processed for sanction since actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund has not yet taken place.

Complaints suggestions regarding programmes by Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad

197. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of complaints/ suggestions received regarding the programmes telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad: and

(b) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The receipt of viewers' response to the programmes telecast by Doordarshan is a continuing process and no specific list as such of such responses is, therefore, maintained. However, it is the endeavour of Doordarshan to draw upon such advice, to the extent considered feasible, to improve the quality of its programmes.

International transit container terminal at Cochin Port

198. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up an international transit container terminal at Cochin Port is still pending; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor and action taken to clear the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) M/s. Frederic Harris of Netherlands (with RITES as their Indian associates) have been appointed as consultant to prepare a Feasibility Study on establishing a container transhipment terminal at Vallarpadam Island at Cochin. The Feasibility Study is under preparation and the final report awaited soon.